

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. An intubation instrument, a portion of which is for insertion into a
5 patient through the patient's mouth, comprising:
a body having a handle attached thereto;
an elongate arm having an elongate base portion attached to the body
and an elongate lifter portion having a smooth surface for engaging the patient's
epiglottis and a distal end for insertion distal-end first through a patient's mouth;
10 said lifter portion being at least 3 centimeters long and extending from said
base portion by at least a 5 degree angle.

2. The intubation instrument of claim 1, further including a viewer
positioned in the vicinity of the area where the base portion meets the lifter
15 portion of the arm, said viewer directed toward the distal end of the lifter portion.

3. The intubation instrument of claim 2, wherein said viewer is a
telescope.

20 4. The intubation instrument of claim 2, wherein said viewer is a
CMOS camera.

5. The intubation instrument of claim 2, wherein said viewer is a CCD camera.

6. The intubation instrument of claim 1, wherein said at least 5° angle
5 is between 5° and 85°, inclusive.

7. The intubation instrument of claim 6, wherein said at least 5° angle,
is between 30° and 60°, inclusive.

10 8. The intubation instrument of claim 6, wherein said at least 5° angle
is approximately 45°.

9. The intubation instrument of claim 2, further including a light
operably secured to said lifter portion.

15 10. The intubation instrument of claim 9, wherein said light is an LED.

11. The intubation instrument of claim 2, wherein said viewer is an
CMOS camera and further including an LED light operably secured to said lifter
20 portion.

12. The intubation instrument of claim 1, wherein said lifter portion is
pivotally secured to said base portion at a pivot point.

13. The intubation instrument of claim 12, further including a locking lever arm for actuating and holding said lifter portion in a preselected position about said pivot point.

5 14. The intubation instrument of claim 2, further including a display for viewing video output from said viewer.

15. The intubation instrument of claim 14, wherein said display is remotely connected to said camera.

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16. The intubation instrument of claim 1, wherein said lifter portion is between 3-10 centimeters long, inclusive.

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17. The intubation instrument of claim 16, wherein said lifter portion is between 4-8 centimeters long, inclusive.

18. The intubation instrument of claim 17, wherein said lifter portion is approximately 6 centimeters long.

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19. An intubation instrument, a portion of which is for insertion into a patient through the patient's mouth, comprising:

a body having a handle attached thereto;

an elongate arm having an elongate base portion attached to the body
and an elongate lifter portion having a smooth surface for engaging the patient's
epiglottis and a distal end for insertion distal-end first through a patient's mouth;

said lifter portion being at least as long as said base portion and extending

5 from said base portion by at least a 5 degree angle.

20. The intubation instrument of claim 19, further including a viewer
positioned in the vicinity of the area where the base portion meets the lifter
portion of the arm, said viewer directed toward the distal end of the lifter portion.

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21. The intubation instrument of claim 21, wherein said viewer is a
CMOS camera.

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22. The intubation instrument of claim 21, wherein said viewer is a
CCD camera.

23. The intubation instrument of claim 21, further including a light
operably secured to said lifter portion.

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24. The intubation instrument of claim 23, wherein said light is an LED.

25. An intubation instrument, a portion of which is for insertion into a patient through the patient's mouth, comprising:

a body having a handle attached thereto;

an elongate arm having an elongate base portion attached to the body

5 and an elongate lifter portion having a smooth surface for engaging the patient's epiglottis and a distal end for insertion distal-end first through a patient's mouth;

a viewer secured posterior to said arm in the vicinity where said base portion meets said lifter portion, said viewer directed toward the distal end of the lifter portion.

10 26. The intubation instrument of claim 25, wherein said base portion meets said lifter portion substantially in the middle of said elongate arm.

27. The intubation instrument of claim 26, wherein said viewer is a CMOS camera.

15 28. The intubation instrument of claim 27, wherein said lifter portion is pivotally secured to said base portion.

29. The intubation instrument of claim 28, further including an LED light operably secured to said lifter portion.

30. The intubation instrument of claim 29, further including a display operably secured to said camera.

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